Annual Report
For the Year 1895-

To the Leyburn Rural District Sanitary Authority

Gentlemen

I am pleased to lay before you my report for the year 1895; being the twentieth it has been my duty to present. With it I lay before you the Tabular Statements of Births and Deaths in each Township of the District, compiled from the monthly returns sent by the two Registrars of the Union.

The year opened with the most severe storm that has occurred in my memory. The first two months were one continual frost and snow, but the weather was calm, and to a great extent the health of the District was good, and the Death rate was lower than might have been expected. The number of Deaths was 8 in January and 11 in February. After the break up of the storm there was a considerable amount of sickness, and the number of Deaths arose to 13 in March. The Spring was cold and damp, but on the whole the year has been dry and the rainfall not above the average. The end of September was notable for the great heat. In December the Deaths arose to 15, being the highest of the year.

After the storm broke up in the begining of the year Influenza appeared, and caused a large amount of Sickness through the whole district. Eight deaths were returned as having been caused by this disease

and the after effects will be felt for a long time by other cases.
Scarlatina was notified in 10 cases, but it was of a mild form and no deaths occurred. The Places affected were Mr Hales' School, Middleham, Newton-le-Willows, Patrick Brompton, Constable Burton, and Thornton Steward. At this latter place the school was closed for a time. In each case Isolation was carefully carried out and the mischief abated.
Two cases of Diphtheria were notified, neither of which were fatal.
One case of Small-pox was introduced into the district, but was carefully isolated and no further case occurred.
Measles was prevalent in Spennithorne and Carlton. In the latter place the School was closed.
Whooping Cough was prevalent over the District, causing three deaths. People have got into the habit of looking upon these two diseases as trivial, but in reality they cause more Infantile deaths than others diseases.
Two fatal cases of Diarrhœa occurred in Middleham
Phthisis was the cause of six deaths, being lower than last year.
Diseases of the Chest, such as Bronchitis were the cause of nine Deaths.
Heart disease, as is usual in this District, was the cause of death in more cases than we ought to have, seven deaths being reported.
An Inquest was held in sixe cases of accidental death, three of these were returned as Injuries.
Three deaths occurred after Confinement. These are the most sad, and point, I think to bad nursing

more than to the Sanitary surroundings.
On the whole the health of the District during the year has been good. The cases of preventable disease have been few.
Referring to the tables I lay before you, I find that the Births registered during the year, were 145, only one more than in 1894. I estimate the population as about the same. This gives a Birth rate of a little over 20 per 1000 Inhabitants
The number of Deaths from all causes was 106 giving a rate of a little over 15 per 1000, as against 14 per 1000 for the whole district for last year. Middleham had the highest number of ~~deaths viz. 19, in a population~~ under 900.
24 People lived to over 70 years of age, and 17 over 80 years, making 41 over 70 years. This I think a good average. Out of the 106 deaths in the whole district ought to be taken two deaths of strangers in the Workhouse, who simply came in to die.
During the year I have been over nearly the whole of the District and watched the Diseases prevalent. Comparatively few Nuisances have been brought before you. Most of them have been dealt with by your Sanitary Inspector and, if found necessary, laid before you.
I must now bring to your notice a few things of which I have to complain. The Drainage of East Witton is still in abeyance. Nothing has been done since my last report. It will be a pity to let some disease force this to be done, and I shall be pleased if you will instruct your Officer to see to it.
Harmby is still without a proper supply of

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drinking water, but I hope this will soon be remedied. Spennithorne is in the same position I am sorry to see that in both cases a certain amount of bad feeling has been introduced. I think these cases might all be settled at a very small cost to the rate-payers if approached amicably. The Leyburn water supply has been very much improved. A small outlay is all that is now required to settle this vexed question. Finghall has never been attended to, but the Inhabitants complain much.
In other respects I think the District has not much to complain of. If any nuisance is brought forward I am sure your Inspector will look to it, at once and will see that it is remedied.
I am, Gentlemen

Your obedient Servant
P. Mleatt Med
Medical Officer of Health

March 5th 1896